

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SAM-01 IO-11 ACDA-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 /081 W

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O R 181617Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6309

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 879

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, JO

SUBJ: PRIMIN AYYUBI COMMENTS ON FURTHER STEPS TOWARD
JORDANIAN-SYRIAN UNITY

REF: STATE 37838

1. ACCORDING TO SYRIAN PRESS FEB 18, PRIMIN AYYUBI
COMMENTED TO JORDANIAN AL-RA'I THAT "A NEW UNIFYING STEP" WAS NOW
UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES IN LINE WITH
INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION WHICH HAVE
ALREADY TAKEN PLACE. SEPARATE ARTICLE REPORED SYRO-
JORDANIAN HIGHER COMMITTEE WOULD COMPLETE ITS ACTIVITIES
FEB 18 AND NOTED PROGRESS BEING MADE IN AREAS OF
CURRENCY, BANKING AND JUDICIAL COOPERATION. FEB 17
PRESS REPORTED DISCUSSION OF COOPERATION IN TOURISM,
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PHOSPHATE EXPLOITATION AND FORMATION OF JOINT COMPANIES.

2. COMMENT: BELIEVE PRES ASAD HAS MANDATE FROM
BAATH PARTY COMMANDS AND HIS SENIOR MILITARY ADVISORS TO
ADVANCE COORDINATION AS CLOSELY AND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE
WITH JORDAN IN ALL FIELDS INCLUDING MILITARY. VIEWED FROM
HERE, SETTING OF LIMITS TO RAPPROCHEMENT, IN TERMS OF BOTH
PACE AND CONTENT, WILL PROBABLY BE DONE BY JORDANIAN SIDE. OUR
EXPECTATION HAS BEEN THAT SYRO-JORDANIAN COOPERATION IN ANY
PARTICULAR FIELD WOULD INITIALLY FALL WITHIN RATHER LOOSELY
DEFINED FRAMEWORK AND THAT MILITARY COORDINATION IN
PARTICULAR WOULD BE RESTRICTED BY JORDAN'S PERCEIVED
SELF-INTEREST.
MURPHY

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TAGS: PFOR, SY, JO
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Type: TE
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